

Preserving Our past
Preparing Our future

In 2017, Missouri State Parks commemorated the 100th anniversary of the state park system, which had its start in 1917 with the creation of a state park fund. However, the idea of a state park system for Missouri can be traced to an earlier national preservation movement that began in the late 19th century, the same movement that helped launch the National Park System. Spurred on by popular works of late 19th and early 20th century explorers and travel writers, Americans began experiencing a burgeoning interest in historic landscapes and the natural world, as well as a desire to protect these spectacular locations. As the population became increasingly mobile with the advent of the automobile and a rapidly improving highway system, individuals and families aspired to travel to see these destinations firsthand, and called on public officials to preserve them for public enjoyment.

This mindset held true for Missourians as well. The growing desire of the state's citizenry for outdoor recreation spaces was followed by a rapid expansion of the Missouri state park system in the 1920s and 30s. This led to the creation of a formal plan in 1938, which defined the role of the state park system: to "preserve Missouri's scenic and recreational resources, to provide opportunities for the people of Missouri to enjoy them, [and] to encourage out-of-state visitors also to enjoy them." This definition was further refined by Chapter 253 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, which describes a state park as "any land, site or object primarily of recreational value or of cultural value



LEFT: collection of data at Prairie State Park; ABOVE: prescribed burn at Hawn State Park; RIGHT: original artifacts preserved at Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site



Fotografía este código QR con la cámara de su teléfono para ver una versión en Español de este folleto.

GUIDE TO
MISSOURI
STATE PARKS



Trails at Ha Ha Tonka State Park



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
PO Box 176
Jefferson City MO 65102
mostateparks.com



Missouri State Parks is primarily supported by the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax.

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MISSOURI
STATE PARKS

because of its scenic, historic, prehistoric, archeologic, scientific, or other distinctive characteristics or natural features.”

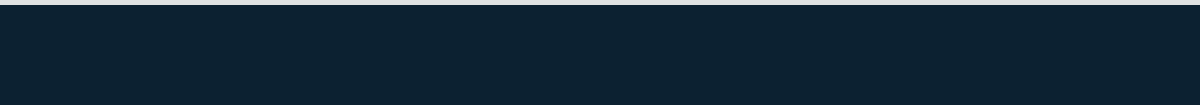
The statute's emphasis on valuing the significant natural and cultural resources of a state park or state historic site helped to establish the mission of Missouri State Parks, which is to preserve and interpret the state's most outstanding natural landscapes and cultural landmarks, and to provide outstanding recreational opportunities compatible with those resources. This mission is what guides all stewardship and resource management activities Missouri State Parks team members employ to protect Missouri's natural and cultural estate for future generations.

Examples of management tools used to oversee the state park system's natural resources include scientific research and data collection through species inventory and monitoring, and stewardship activities, such as prescribed fire and invasive vegetation removal. To make sure special recognition and protection are afforded to the state's most noteworthy natural landscapes, Missouri State Parks preserves large wilderness-like spaces as state park wild areas, and distinguishes the most notable best-of-type native park ecosystems as Missouri natural areas or legacy landscapes. Where historic natural environments, such as tallgrass prairie, oak or shortleaf pine woodlands and Ozark glades, persist, they are protected, restored and managed to assure their scenic character, ecological values and native plants and animals may long exemplify Missouri's natural heritage.

To protect the state's most exceptional cultural, archaeological and historic resources, team members expand their knowledge and understanding of Missouri's history through archaeological surveys and reviews of historical records. Additionally, the team actively engages



Top: blue bells at St. Francois State Park, biking at Stockton State Park; Middle: canoeing at Cuivre River State Park; Bottom: the rifle of Missouri's first governor, Alexander McNair, featuring intricate metalwork on the stock



A Message From the Governor and First Lady



As farmers, we've always appreciated the beauty of nature and what it brings to our lives. From providing food on the table to offering a peaceful respite from the busyness of life, our natural resources are a gift. And being a good steward of those resources is an awesome responsibility.

With 93 state parks and historic sites, our state park system offers you a multitude of opportunities to get outside and connect with nature and our cultural heritage. Whether you are a veteran parks visitor or a first-time tourist, we welcome you.

Missouri State Parks strives to preserve and interpret the finest examples of Missouri's natural landscapes. Throughout the state, you'll find prairies and forests, lakes and streams, mountains and canyons. Each park offers its own display of beauty, each different and unique.

If you enjoy history, Missouri state parks and historic sites will help you travel back in time. Visit a state historic site and see how some of Missouri's finest cultural landmarks have been preserved. From touring the historic home of a past president to visiting covered bridges and historic mills, you can get a glimpse of how life used to be. Don't forget to visit Missouri's first state capitol as well as the homes of famous Missourians, such as Nathan and Olive Boone, Scott Joplin and Mark Twain.

You can also find many outdoor recreational opportunities throughout the state parks. Explore Missouri, and you'll find scenic overlooks that provide amazing views, miles of trails for hiking, biking or horseback riding, and ample places to camp, as well as numerous other outdoor activities, such as fishing, kayaking, spelunking and even playing a round of disc golf.

We encourage you to get outside and make some memories at a Missouri state park!

Michael L. Parson
Governor

Teresa Parson
First Lady

mostateparks.com

ABOVE: Missouri Governor Mike Parson and first lady Teresa Parson, photo courtesy of Missouri Division of Tourism
FRONT COVER: Lake of the Ozarks State Park

Activities &
Amenities
GRID

| FACILITY NAME | CONTACT NO. | CAMPING | | | | | | | | | | | | AMENITIES | | | | | | | | | | | | TRAILS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------|--------|------------|----------------|--------------|---------|------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|---------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|----------|--------|---------------|------------|-------------|---------|--------------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | BASIC WALK-IN | 30 AMP ELECTRIC | 50 AMP ELECTRIC | 30 AMP ELECTRIC WATER | 50 AMP ELECTRIC WATER | 30 AMP ELECTRIC WATER SEWER | 50 AMP ELECTRIC WATER SEWER | PLATFORM TENT | EQUESTRIAN | FAMILY | RESERVABLE | ADA ACCESSIBLE | CAMP STATION | LAUNDRY | GOLF | ORGANIZED GROUP CAMP | SPECIAL USE CAMPING AREA | GROUP TENT AREA | LOADING | MARINA BOAT RAMP | FOOD SERVICE*** | STORE RE-SALES/OUTLET** | FISHING | BOATING | SWIMMING | TRAILS | BIKING TRAILS | ANY TRAILS | PICNIC SITE | SHELTER | INTERPRETION | TOURS** | | | | | |
| Arrow Rock SHS | 660-837-3330 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | | | • | PD | | | • | | | • | O | • | MC | • | SG | | | | |
| Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial SP+ | 636-458-3813 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | • | • | | • | • | | | | | • | • | | • | EQ | HS | | • | • | • | MC | | | | | | |
| Sam A. Baker SP | 573-856-4411 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | • | • | | | | | C | RA | | • | • | • | WR | • | BP | • | MB | • | O | • | • | MC | | | | |
| Battle of Athens SHS | 660-877-3871 | • | | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RA | | • | • | • | | | | | • | E | • | • | SG | | | | | |
| Battle of Carthage SHS | 417-682-2279 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | • | • | SG | | | | |
| Battle of Island Mound SHS | 417-276-4529 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | O | • | • | SG | | | | |
| Battle of Lexington SHS | 660-259-4654 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | | | • | | • | • | MC | • | GT | | |
| Battle of Pilot Knob SHS | 573-546-3454 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | | | • | O | • | • | MC | • | SG | | |
| Bennett Spring SP | 417-532-4338 | • | • | • | | | | • | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | | • | O | • | • | MC | • | GT | | | |
| Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio SHS | 816-931-5722 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | O | • | • | GT | | | |
| Big Lake SP+ | 660-771-6341 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | CC | RA | | • | L | • | | | | | • | O | • | • | | | | | |
| Big Oak Tree SP | 573-649-3149 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | PD | | • | | | | • | | O | • | | | | | |
| Big Sugar Creek SP | 417-847-2539 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Bollinger Mill SHS | 573-243-4591 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | GT | | | | |
| Nathan and Olive Boone Homestead SHS | 417-751-3266 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | | | • | O | • | • | GT | | | | |
| Boone's Lick SHS | 660-837-3330 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | O | • | | | | | |
| Bothwell Lodge SHS | 660-827-0510 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | • | MB | | | • | O | • | • | GT | | | | |
| Bryant Creek SP | 417-683-2520 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Castlewood SP | 636-227-4433 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RA | | | R | | | • | EQ | HS | MB | • | O | • | • | | | | | |
| Clark's Hill/Norton SHS | 573-449-7402 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Confederate Memorial SHS | 660-584-2853 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | L | | | • | | | | • | E | • | • | SG | | | | |
| Edward Ted and Pat Jones-Confluence Point SP | 636-899-1135 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | L | | | • | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Crowder SP | 660-359-6473 | • | • | • | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | RA | | • | L | • | WR | • | BP | • | MB | • | O | • | • | • | | | | |
| Cuivre River SP | 636-528-7247 | • | • | • | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | RA | | • | L | • | WR | • | BP | • | MB | • | O | • | • | • | MC | | | |
| Current River SP | 573-858-3015 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | L | • | | • | BP | | | • | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Deutschheim SHS | 573-486-2200 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | | | • | • | O | • | • | MC | • | GT | |
| Dillard Mill SHS | 573-244-3120 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | S | | | • | | | | • | • | O | • | • | GT | | | |
| Echo Bluff SP | 573-858-3015 | • | | | • | | • | | | | | • | • | • | • | | | | | • | • | • | S | S | S | • | BP | • | BS | MB | • | O | • | • | | | | |
| Elephant Rocks SP | 573-546-3454 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | L | | | | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Finger Lakes SP | 573-443-5315 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | • | • | | | RA | | • | L | • | WR | • | W | MB | • | • | E | • | | | | | | |
| First Missouri State Capitol SHS | 636-940-3322 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | MC | • | GT | | | | |
| Graham Cave SP | 573-564-3476 | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RA | | • | R | • | | • | | | | • | O | • | • | | | | | |
| Grand Gulf SP | 417-264-7600 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Ha Ha Tonka SP | 573-346-2986 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | L | • | WR | • | BP | • | W | • | O | • | • | | | | |
| Hawn SP | 573-883-3603 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | BP | | | • | O | • | • | | | | | |
| Hunter-Dawson SHS | 573-748-5340 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | • | • | • | GT | | | |
| Iliniwek Village SHS | 660-877-3871 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Johnson's Shut-Ins SP | 573-546-2450 | • | • | • | • | | • | | • | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | CC | | • | • | R | | R | • | BP | • | BS | HS | • | O | • | • | MC | | | |
| Scott Joplin House SHS | 314-340-5790 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | | | | | • | E | • | • | MC | • | GT | | |
| Katy Trail SP | 573-449-7402 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | EQ | HS | | | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Knob Noster SP+ | 660-563-2463 | • | • | • | | | | • | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | | | • | L | • | WR | • | • | EQ | MB | • | • | O | • | • | MC | | | |
| Lake of the Ozarks SP+ | 573-348-2694 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | QC | Y | HA | MA | • | • | L | • | WR | • | BP | • | MB | • | O | • | • | MC | • | GT |
| Lake Wappapello SP | 573-297-3232 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | EQ | CC | HA | MA | • | • | L | • | WR | • | BP | • | MB | • | O | • | • | MC | | |
| Lewis and Clark SP+ | 816-579-5564 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | EQ | CC | HA | MA | • | • | L | • | WR | • | • | HS | • | O | • | • | | | | |
| Long Branch SP | 660-773-5229 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | | | | | | | | HA | MA | • | • | L | • | WR | • | BP | • | HS | • | O | • | • | | | | |
| Mastodon SHS | 636-464-2976 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | MC | • | SG | | |
| Meramec SP | 573-468-6072 | • | • | • | • | | • | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | R | • | WR | • | • | BP | | | • | O | • | • | MC | • | GT | |
| Missouri Mines SHS | 573-431-0226 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | MC | • | GT | | |
| Missouri State Museum | 573-751-2854 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | MC | • | GT | | |
| Montauk SP+ | 573-548-2201 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | • | • | • | S | | | • | • | HS | | • | O | • | • | | | | | |
| Morris SP | 573-297-3232 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | | • | • | | | | | |
| Onondaga Cave SP | 573-245-6576 | • | | | • | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | RA | | • | L | R | R | • | • | HS | | • | O | • | • | MC | • | GT | | |
| Osage Village SHS | 417-682-2279 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | • | • | • | SG | | | |
| Gen. John J. Pershing Boyhood Home SHS | 660-963-2525 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | | | | | • | | • | • | MC | • | GT | | |
| Pershing SP | 660-963-2299 | • | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | | | | L | • | | • | BP | | | • | • | O | • | • | | | | |
| Pomme de Terre SP | 417-852-4291 | • | • | • | • | • | | | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | | | C & CC | MT | HA | MA | • | • | • | • | • | L | • | WR | • | • | MC | | |
| Prairie SP | 417-843-6711 | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | • | • | • | • | MC | | |
| Roaring River SP+ | 417-847-2539 | • | • | • | | | | • | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | • | • | • | S | | • | OT | • | | | • | • | O | • | • | MC | | | |
| Robertsville SP | 636-257-3788 | • | • | • | | | | | | | | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | | RA | | • | R | • | | • | | | | • | • | O | • | • | | | | |
| Don Robinson SP | 636-257-3788 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | | O | • | • | | | | |
| Rock Bridge Memorial SP | 573-449-7402 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | | | | • | EQ | MB | | • | O | • | • | | | | | |
| Rock Island Trail SP | 573-489-8780 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | • | EQ | HS | | | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Route 66 SP | 636-938-7198 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | RA | | • | R | | | • | EQ | HS | | • | O | • | • | MC | • | SG | | |
| St. Francois SP | 573-358-2173 | • | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Make Your Reservations

Most shelter reservations can be made online or by calling the park or state historic site.

Camping Reservation Information

More than 3,500 campsites are available for reservation at 38 state park and historic site campgrounds. You can call or go online beginning 12 months in advance and up until 7 p.m. on the day of arrival.

TO MAKE A RESERVATION

- Call toll-free 877-ICampMO (877-422-6766) 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CT seven days a week.
- Or visit mostateparks.com 24 hours a day.

RESERVATION FEES***

- To MAKE a reservation*: Website: \$ 6.50 – General Camping \$ 6.50 – Group Tent Area *Same-day reservations do not have a reservation fee.
- Call Center: \$ 8.00 – General Camping \$ 8.00 – Group Tent Area

- To CHANGE a reservation: Website/Call Center: \$ 5.25 – General Camping \$ 10.00 – Group Tent Area \$ 10.00 – MSP Lodging

- To CANCEL a reservation: Website/Call Center: \$ 10.00 – General Camping \$ 10.00 – Group Tent Area \$ 20-25.00 – MSP Lodging**

**Lodging fee based on unit type.

***The reservation fee applies to each site reserved for a future arrival date, whether for one or 15 days, and is nonrefundable.

When making reservations, there are various options for payment, including credit cards, debit cards, camping coupons and gift cards. Check mostateparks.com for more information



Elephant Rocks State Park

Stay the Night

CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES

Pack up your tent or stock up your recreational vehicle for a great way to experience nature and explore Missouri's state parks. Thirty-eight reservable campgrounds provide more than 3,500 campsites for everyone – from walk-in sites tucked away in the trees to drive-in sites ready for today's modern RVs. Facilities range from basic sites to sites with sewer, water and electric service.

CAMPING SEASON AND RATES

Camping is available year-round at many state parks, with water turned off in the campgrounds for much of the winter season. The camping on-season for most state parks is April 1 through Oct. 31. At Roaring River, Bennett Spring and Montauk, the on-season begins Feb. 25. Some northern parks begin on-season operations April 15. The on-season for Table Rock State Park runs from March through November.

Camping rates vary depending on the park or historic site, the time of year and the type of utilities available (water, sewer, electric). Nine state park campgrounds offer value camping with lower rates, depending on the day and season. More than 1,300 campsites offer 50-amp electrical service, ideal for contemporary recreational vehicles. To see each facility's camping rates, visit mostateparks.com.

A \$2 per night camping discount is available year-round for senior citizens (65 years and older); people with disabilities; and military personnel (retired, veteran and active-duty). Proof of age, disability or military status is required at check-in. Visit mostateparks.com for more information.

CUSTOMER REWARDS PROGRAM

Enroll in the Customer Rewards Program at a Missouri State Parks location or when speaking with the call center team, or update your online customer account at icampmo.com and visit mostateparks.com for more information.



Table Rock State Park

CAMPING TYPES AND AREAS

There's a campsite tailored just for you and your next visit to a Missouri State Parks campground. You can choose from a secluded walk-in site; a basic campsite; or a paved pad with sewer, water and electric hookups for your recreational vehicle.

For those wanting to camp with their family and friends, family campsites are a great solution. These sites consist of two camping pads, as well as two tables, grills and lantern posts so everyone can share in the fun and good times together.

There are campgrounds designed for equestrian users in four state parks; 12 organized group camps in seven state parks; and special-use camping areas for nonprofit organizations and others, in many state parks. The Pin

Making Our Parks Accessible

So that our state parks can be used and enjoyed by everyone, we make our facilities accessible to all people, regardless of abilities. Look for this symbol to identify campsites, showerhouses, picnic areas, fishing docks and other areas that are accessible. For more details about accessibility in Missouri State Parks, visit mostateparks.com/accessibility-information.

Oak Facility at Lake of the Ozarks State Park features a lodge, a group camp, cabins and recreational facilities. Several of the parks with backpacking trails offer primitive camping in designated areas along the trails. Check the grid in this brochure for more information on where these and other special camping areas are located.

SPENDING THE NIGHT

Reserve a site in advance by taking advantage of the Centralized Reservation System. All reservable campsites that are not reserved may be available by walk-up registration.

At most state parks, single-night reservations are allowed on the weekend. Parks that require a two-night minimum stay on the weekend (Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday) are Big Lake, Lake of the Ozarks, Mark Twain, Pershing, St. Joe, Table Rock, Wakonda, Wallace and Watkins Mill state parks.

EXPERIENCE CAMPING WITH COMFORTABLE LODGING

If you crave the fun of camping and prefer a more comfortable lodging experience, Missouri State Parks offers several options.

Enjoy the perfect home away from home with lodging opportunities ranging from rustic cabins to modern motel rooms with all the amenities.

Camper Cabins

A camper cabin, a cross between a housekeeping cabin and a campsite, gives the feeling of camping without the hassle. Bring your own sleeping bag and enjoy the comforts of electricity, heating and air conditioning, and access to campground amenities.

Camper cabins are available at Johnson's Shut-Ins, Mark Twain, Stockton, Pomme de Terre and Lake Wappapello state parks. Lake of the Ozarks State Park offers Outpost cabins that are similar to camper cabins.

Premium camper cabins are offered at Big Lake State Park. In addition to electricity, heating and air conditioning, these premium cabins offer running water and restrooms.

Yurts

For a more tent-like experience, try a yurt at Lake of the Ozarks or Pomme de Terre State Park. A yurt is a circular structure with a fabric cover and a wooden frame, making it strong and weather tight. The yurts feature the comforts of electricity, heating and air conditioning, and access to campground amenities.

The premium yurt at Table Rock State Park offers running water, a full kitchen and a restroom, in addition to electricity, heating and air conditioning.

Cabins and Duplexes

There is a cabin to fit everyone's taste and interest. Cabins built in the 1930s retain the rustic feel, but have been renovated and updated for today's visitors. Cabins and modern duplexes and fourplexes vary between each park and provide a cozy setting for two people or an entire family.

Motels

Six state parks offer modern motel rooms for overnight guests. Lodging is available seasonally at most state parks, while a few offer accommodations year-round. With all the comforts of home, they provide the perfect place to stay as you explore Missouri's state parks.

DINING

Hearty appetites go hand in hand with state park adventures. For those who don't want to fix their own meals, 13 state parks have dining facilities that range from modern restaurants and rustic dining lodges offering full meals to a simple grill for a quick snack.

Campground stores are also available to pick up snacks and groceries in many locations.

MISSOURI STATE PARKS & HISTORIC SITES MAP

STATE PARKS AND STATE HISTORIC SITES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE 2024 SEASON

Properties at Jay Nixon State Park remain closed and not open to the public. *



Keeping the Past Alive

MISSOURI'S CULTURAL RESOURCES

History is all around you at Missouri state parks, and each state park and state historic site has its own unique stories to tell. Visitors are encouraged to learn about the state's fascinating past as they tour the historic homes of famous Missourians, explore the settlements of early French and German immigrants, wander across somber Civil War battlefields, appreciate the enduring rustic architecture of the Civilian Conservation Corps, stroll across the landscape of an American Indian village, or learn about the many contributions of Missouri's Black Americans. Missouri State Parks preserves and interprets numerous examples of the state's most outstanding cultural landmarks, including buildings, structures and archaeological sites, many of which are recognized nationally for their historical significance. The Missouri State Parks system contains close to 240 properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, either listed individually or as contributing features to one of 19 NHRP-listed historic districts, and boasts seven National Historic Landmarks.



Deuschheim State Historic Site



Watkins Woolen Mill State Historic Site



Missouri Mines State Historic Site



Nathan and Olive Boone Homestead State Historic Site



Graham Cave State Park



Dillard Mill State Historic Site



Hunter-Dawson State Historic Site



Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park

MISSOURI'S NATURAL AREAS

Missouri has a wide array of natural landscapes, each expressing different versions of our state's wildlife, native plant life and geologic story. There are tall grass prairies, deep forests, deep caves, Ozark bluffs, cypress swamps and crystal-clear streams. Some natural features, such as the attractive glade-dwelling yellow coneflower, are unique to the Ozarks.

Some of our state's most special natural places have been designated as Missouri natural areas. These unique locations are home to today's most unusual natural environments, the richest native flora, strongest native fauna, most distinctive bird communities and many of our rare plants and animals.

Explore Missouri's state parks and you'll experience some of the most spectacular natural places found anywhere. In fact, you may even feel as if you have stepped back in time and are an explorer or settler

experiencing Missouri's natural environment for the very first time.

During your excursions, you can discover remnant prairies at Prairie State Park, fen wetlands at Meramec State Park, bottomland forests and marsh at Annie and Abel Van Meter State Park, a cypress swamp at Big Oak Tree State Park, flatwoods at Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, old-growth oak woodlands at Sam A. Baker State Park, and pinewoods at Hawin State Park, just to name a few.

Currently, there are 192 designated natural areas across the state, 39 of which are located in Missouri's state parks, offering the very best remaining examples of our state's original natural landscapes. These special locations were given the Missouri natural area designation to provide ongoing management and protection of our state's invaluable natural heritage for future generations to enjoy.

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